



Rick Snyder, Governor  
Stephanie Comai, Director

Contact: [Ken Silfven](mailto:Ken.Silfven@michigan.gov)  
517-335-5858  
[www.michigan.gov/tia](http://www.michigan.gov/tia)

## Virtual Tour in Marne Showcases Job Opportunities in Skilled Trades and Manufacturing

*Michigan Talent Investment Agency and Under the Radar Team Up to Reach Students and Parents through Georama Technology*

**MARNE, Mich** – Students, parents and job seekers in Michigan and around the world can get a first-hand look at careers and opportunities in manufacturing and skilled trades on Thursday, May 19 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET through a partnership between the Michigan Talent Investment Agency (TIA) and Under the Radar Michigan.

On Thursday, Tom Daldin, host of “Under the Radar Michigan,” will visit with employees of DeWys Manufacturing in Marne to demonstrate the full service metal fabrication services that they offer.

The live stream will highlight various people and positions at DeWys Manufacturing, including Brandon Secord, engineer, Trevor Schillinger, welder, and Cody Weyer, press brake operator. Each candidate will spend time providing visual demonstrations of their job, responsibilities and daily routines, highlighting the opportunities in their field. There will then be time for questions where viewers can engage with Daldin and the employees in real-time.

Manufacturing directly employs more than 604,000 individuals in Michigan, according to the Michigan Manufacturers Association.

Manufacturing is needed in industries including automotive, metals, food and beverage, bioscience, furniture, defense and other different subsectors of the economy.

Skilled trades jobs overall, including manufacturing, are some of the most in demand jobs as employers face a growing need for talent. More than 6,700 job openings are expected every year through 2022. However, many students and parents associate skilled trades with low paying, low skill or dirty jobs.

“Skilled trades jobs have evolved and they are good-paying, sustainable career opportunities across many different industries, including manufacturing,” said Stephanie Comai, director of the Michigan Talent Investment Agency. “However, the perception of these jobs is still outdated. We are excited to again use Georama to show students and parents the opportunities in Michigan’s manufacturing industry.”

The partnership is part of an ongoing initiative on behalf of the Talent Investment Agency and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to encourage skilled trades as a career option and address perceptions about the jobs available. This is the third stop in a series of Georama skilled trades virtual tours.

Daldin will use Georama, a real-time virtual tour platform, to provide a full-scope of what each position entails clients they work with and training required for success. Georama allows two-way interactivity, where participants can ask questions and respond to the guide operating the livestream camera. This real-time broadcast will allow viewers to experience and understand a skilled trades position within the manufacturing industry through their computer or mobile phone, ask questions and offer suggestions to Daldin.

Participants can visit <http://mitalent.org/skilled-trades-live> to tune in.

For more information about skilled trades in Michigan, visit [www.mitalent.org/skilled-trades/](http://www.mitalent.org/skilled-trades/).

The Talent Investment Agency was created in March 2015, to address the gap between workers with the right skills and employers in need of highly skilled workers. Visit

<http://www.michigan.gov/tia> for more information.

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